GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
EDUCATION FOR BLIND
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ignored the literacy needs of the blind;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Progressive Society for the Sightless persons has urged the Governmentto include the education and literacy of visually handicapped in the education literacy campaign;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a)&(b)No Sir. Does not arise.

(c)&(d)The Government of India has always been concerned about the specialeducational needs of the persons with disabilities including blind persons and have taken action to provide suitable inputs in this regard. The Ministry of SocialJustice & Empowerment support running of special schools for disabled children including visually impaired children through non-Government organisations. The National Institute for Visually Handicapped, Dehra Dun, has been set up as anapex organisation for technical support for rehabilitation of the visually impaired persons including their education. The Institute also runs a model school whichprovides education to blind and low vision children from pre-school stage up to Class XII.The Department of Education implements a scheme of integrated education for disabled children including visually impaired children.

(e) Does not arise.